



HEADLINE NEWS

Week of June 22, 2006

Volume 8, #25

1. Belize's Newest Thrill Ride!

Top Story #1

Belize's Newest Thrill Ride! ***Astrum Helicopters***

AMBERGRIS Today's Perlita Zapata and Dorian Nuñez soared above Ambergris Caye this past weekend in one of the most unique ways – by helicopter. Astrum Helicopters has opened a whole new realm of possibilities for exploring the natural beauty that Belize has to offer; and *Ambergris Today* had the wonderful opportunity to do just that, glide above San Pedro Town and witness the beauty of La Isla Bonita in a whole new way.



The flight was one of the most memorable experiences here in *Ambergris Today* as the helicopter ride offered a point of view of Ambergris Caye beyond comparison to any thing else. Gustavo Giron Jr. and Gustavo Giron Sr. are in partnership with Astrum Helicopters and are starting to promote their new service to Belize. Both father and son make up a great team of helicopter pilots; they are very friendly and make you feel completely safe in their hands. Pilots at Astrum Helicopters have logged over several thousand hours of flight time and their management team and pilots all have more than 25 years of aviation experience.

The flight experience in a helicopter is totally different for any other type of air travel. And in short, our experience floating' above the island truly gave us a one-of-a-kind vantage point of our beautiful island. We flew over San Pedro Town and the coast line of Ambergris Caye, soared over the Great Barrier Reef of Belize and hovered above the mangroves on the lagoon side of the island. The views, nothing but spectacular and the experience, like never before.



Astrum Helicopters are based just outside Belize City in two locations – at Old Belize and Cisco on the Western Highway. In Belize City they have a City and Reef Helicopter Tour which takes you over and around the nation's old capital, heads east to view the longest barrier reef in the Western Hemisphere and tours Northern Drowned Caye, Shallow Caye, Drowned Caye, St. George's Caye, Gallows Point, among others.

In San Pedro, Gustavo Giron Jr. mentioned that the tour company wants to construct helipads where they can have easier access to landing areas in town and as well as in the North Ambergris area to allow for more convenient service to the resorts over on that side of the island.



Tours at Astrum Helicopters are not restricted to the Belize City & Reef helicopter Tours. Customers can custom charter flights that are tailored to meet their specific needs. You can charter a flight to see the Great Blue Hole, to soar over the Maya Ruins like an eagle, see the wildlife reserves, pass over the 1,000ft falls at Mountain Pine Ridge – the possibilities are endless. They also provide specialized services such as search and rescue, aerial surveys, external load and filming/photography and in emergencies they also offer Medivac services.

"I was one of the lucky winners and just got back from our incredible ride," commented Stephanie, who won a free ride on the helicopter on Sunday, June 18. "We took a tour over the sea along the coast heading north from the airport to around Blue Reef. It was really awesome to see the sharks in the gorgeous turquoise water and the beautiful homes and resorts from the air. The ride was very smooth and comfortable, I'd definitely recommend it."

You can visit Astrum Helicopters' website www.astrumhelicopters.com for more information.

***Photo Caption: 1. Ambergris Today's Perlita Zapata and Dorian Nuñez with Gustavo Giron Sr. & Gustavo Giron Jr. of Astrum Helicopters.
2. Downtown San Pedro by helicopter.
3. Perlita Zapata thakes control.***